

In the Specification:

On page 1, line 1, delete the title "Process for nitric acid production" and insert the following title and heading:

--METHOD FOR THE PRODUCTION OF NITRIC ACID
BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION--.

On page 2, replace original paragraph [0008], lines 6-23, with the following amended paragraph:

[0008] An ~~The~~ aim of the invention is to redesign the nitric acid plant in such a manner that more useful energy becomes available in the form of process steam or electric power for export to external power consumers. The aim also includes that the standard operation of a steam turbine should be omitted and that the steam quantity thus saved be exploited for other purposes or that the said standard operation of a steam turbine should essentially be devoted to power generation instead of compressor drive. Moreover, the aim also encompasses a configuration that has no steam turbine at all yet providing an economy.

and on page 2, between paragraphs [0008] and [0009], insert the following heading:

--SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION--.

On page 4, between paragraphs [0018] and [0019], insert the following heading:

--BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS--.

On page 5, line 7, above paragraph [0020], insert the following heading:

--DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT--.